

(b) The recommendations submitted shall:

(1) identify and define terminology associated with accelerated custom-designed training opportunities;

(2) delineate the minimum standards providers must meet;

(3) delineate the procedures providers must follow to validate that they have met the standards established; and

(4) specify the providers' contractual and financial obligations to individuals participating in the training provided by the providers.

(c) In developing its recommendations, the office shall consult with the Minnesota High Technology Association and providers that may be affected by changes in the statutes or rules. A report of the findings and recommendations shall be submitted to the chairs of the senate higher education budget division and the house higher education finance committee by January 15, 2000.

**Sec. 36. REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 141.22; 141.25, subdivisions 9a, 9b, and 11; and 141.36, are repealed.

Presented to the governor May 21, 1999

Signed by the governor May 25, 1999, 3:41 p.m.

**CHAPTER 215—H.F.No. 346**

*An act relating to courts; requiring disclosure of contracting arrangements for freelance court reporting services; regulating certain services; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 486.*

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

**Section 1. [486.10] FREELANCE COURT REPORTERS; DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS.**

Subdivision 1. DEFINITIONS. (a) The definitions in this subdivision apply to this section.

(b) "Court reporting firm" means a business that provides services of freelance court reporters.

(c) "Freelance court reporter" means an officer who captures and transcribes verbatim legal proceedings and who is authorized to administer oaths to witnesses. Freelance court reporter does not include a court reporter while working in a courtroom setting as an employee of the court.

(d) "Contract or agreement" means a contract or agreement, whether oral or written, for court reporting services between a freelance court reporter or court reporting firm and

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an attorney, law firm, party to a legal proceeding, or party having a financial interest in a legal proceeding that provides for ongoing court reporting services not limited to a particular case or reporting incident.

**Subd. 2. DISCLOSURE; COURT REPORTER REQUIREMENTS; OBJECTIONS.** (a) The existence of a contract or agreement for court reporting services must be disclosed as provided by this paragraph. Written notice of a contract or agreement must be included in the notice of taking deposition or the notice of legal proceeding before commencement of a legal proceeding at which court reporting services are being provided. Oral disclosure of a contract or agreement must be made on the record by the court reporter at the commencement of the legal proceeding.

(b) A freelance court reporter:

(1) shall treat all parties to an action equally, providing comparable services to all parties;

(2) may not act as an advocate for any party or act partially to any party to an action; and

(3) shall comply with all state and federal court rules that govern the activities of court reporters.

(c) An attorney shall state the reason for the objection to the provision of court reporting services by a freelance court reporter or court reporting firm and shall note the objection and the reason on the record.

**Subd. 3. REMEDIES.** Upon the court's or presiding officer's learning of a violation of subdivision 2, paragraph (a), the court or presiding officer may declare that the record for which the court reporting services were provided is void and may order that the legal proceeding be reconducted. Parties who violate subdivision 2, paragraph (a), are jointly and severally liable for costs associated with reconducting the legal proceeding and preparing the new record. Costs include, but are not limited to, attorney, witness, and freelance court reporter appearance and transcript fees.

Presented to the governor May 21, 1999

Signed by the governor May 24, 1999, 9:45 a.m.

## CHAPTER 216—S.F.No. 2221

*An act relating to the operation of state government; crime prevention and judiciary finance; appropriating money for the judicial branch, public safety, public defense, crime victims, corrections, human rights, and related purposes; establishing and expanding grant programs, task forces, and pilot projects; requiring reports and studies; increasing the number of judges; transferring, modifying, and expanding responsibility for various governmental responsibilities; providing procedures for integrated criminal justice information systems; adopting various provisions relating to corrections; expanding the categories of offenders that must provide a biological specimen for DNA testing; expanding postconviction relief for certain offenders; establishing the Rush city correctional facility; authorizing a lease-purchase agreement for a northern satellite laboratory facility and additional work related to a new facility in St. Paul for the bureau of criminal apprehension; impos-*

New language is indicated by underline, deletions by ~~strikeout~~.